Development of northern part of West Bengal

1756. SHRI TARINI KANTA ROY : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has so far been taken on the proposal of the West Bengal Government to evolve policies for development of northern part of West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) and (b) A proposal has been received for granting fiscal concessions like income tax/excise exemptions etc. to six districts of North Bengal on the analogy of similar concessions given to the North Eastern States and Himachal Pradesh. Fiscal concessions in North Eastern States and Himachal Pradesh were announced having regard to various factors that these States face geographical adversities as they are hilly, remote and inaccessible, besides facing internal disturbances. The districts of North Bengal do not face such adversities and, therefore, do not qualify for concessions similar to those provided for North Eastern States/Himachal Pradesh.

Development of industrial clusters

1757. SHRI M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a host of proposals from the State Governments for approval and financial assistance for development of the industrial clusters under the Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) the present position of these proposals; and

(d) the details of the action taken by Government to take a final view on these proposals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. This Department is implementing a Scheme namely Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation